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## James River Brass

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND  
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC



## JAMES RIVER BRASS

Mike Davison, *trumpet*  
Jon Mela, *trumpet*  
Amy Roberts, *French horn*  
Mark La Fratta, *trombone*  
David Townsend, *tuba*

with

Suzanne Bunting, *organ*



FEBRUARY 21, 1999, 8 PM  
CANNON MEMORIAL CHAPEL

The James River Brass Quintet, Richmond's premier brass ensemble comprised of local musicians, has given concerts for the past 15 years. Members of the JRB have appeared as soloists with the Richmond Symphony and have performed for Pope John Paul II and for the Most Reverend and Right Honorable George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury. Their concerts present works ranging from the Baroque to the contemporary genre.

*Michael Davison* received degrees from the Eastman School of Music, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has given recitals (both jazz and classical) throughout the United States (including St. Thomas Church and St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City), France, The Netherlands, Spain, and South Africa. He has performed with numerous orchestras and chamber groups including the Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the Brass Band of Battle Creek, and the Whitewater and Wisconsin Brass Quintets. Also active in the jazz and commercial fields, he has performed with Michael Brecker, Curtis Fuller, Aretha Franklin, the Temptations, and the Four Tops. He has recorded four jazz CDs and one classical CD entitled *Fenster* which received a rave review from the International Trumpet Guild Journal. He is on the faculty of the University of Richmond, where he began the jazz program in 1986. He is also on the faculty of the Interlochen Arts Camp.

Alexandria, Virginia native *Jonathan Mela* has been performing in the Richmond area since 1980. Currently a free lance musician, he has performed with the Richmond Symphony Orchestra, the James River Brass, and with various shows at the Carpenter Center, the Landmark Theatre, the John F. Kennedy Center, Classic Amphitheatre, and the Richmond Coliseum. He has recorded extensively, and can also be heard as a soloist at many churches and in recitals in the Central Virginia area. He attended VCU, where he was principal trumpet in the VCU Symphony and the nationally acclaimed VCU Jazz Orchestra. Other appearances include concerts or shows with Ray Charles, the Four Tops, Lou Rawls, Yanni, John Denver, Leontyne Price, Joe Kennedy, the Duke Ellington Orchestra, the New American Ragtime Ensemble, Morgan Fairchild, Anthony Quinn, John Davidson, Robert Goulet, Shari Lewis, Maureen McGovern, Ben Vereen, Jim Nabors, and other artists.

*Amy Roberts* currently holds the position of second horn in the Maryland Symphony under the baton of Maestro Barry Tuckwell. She has recorded and toured with the Monumental Brass Quintet of Washington, DC. Now living in the Richmond area with her husband and two sons, she appears regularly with the Richmond Symphony.

*Mark J. La Fratta* is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and the Marshall Wythe School

of Law of the College of William and Mary. He was named the Outstanding Bandsman his senior year at Notre Dame and was featured soloist with the ND Band on two national tours. While at Notre Dame, he also played in the ND Faculty Brass Quintet, the ND Symphony, the ND Jazz Band, and the South Bend Symphony. He has played for a Papal Mass for Pope John II, for the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Presidents Carter and Reagan. In addition to playing trombone, euphonium and occasionally tuba with the James River Brass, he is a regular member of Die Dorfmusikanten (a German Oompah Band), the Richmond Symphonic Winds, and the Continentals. He has also played in the Richmond Symphony and the Richmond Symphony Brass Ensemble. He is a partner in the Richmond-based law firm of McGuire, Woods, Battle, and Boothe.

*David Burke Townsend* is a graduate of the New England Conservatory in Boston. He served as principal tuba with the Richmond Symphony from 1969-1991, and taught tuba and euphonium at Longwood College, the University of Richmond, and VCU. Currently he is a member of the Richmond Concert Band, Richard Bland Community Wind Ensemble, Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra, Richmond Symphonic Winds, and Die Dorfmusikanten (the Village Musicians).

*Suzanne Bunting* has been on the faculty at the University of Richmond since 1961. She is currently Professor of Music and chaired the Music Department from 1982 to 1997. She holds a BA degree from the University of Richmond (1958), M Mus degree from the University of Michigan (1960), and has done additional graduate study at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. At the University of Michigan she was a student of Robert Noehren and held a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship. Mrs. Bunting spent a year in Europe studying with Hans Vollenweider in Zurich, Switzerland. She also attended the Organ Academy in Haarlem, Holland where she studied with Anton Heiller. She served for a number of years as organist and choir director at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church. She has played organ recitals in Germany, Switzerland, and Denmark as well as throughout Virginia and in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Bunting served recently as president of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the College Music Society and was Chair of the 1995 Region III Convention of the American Guild of Organists, held in Richmond.

• • • PROGRAM • • •

Sharagan and Fugue

Alan Hovhanness  
(b. 1911)

Sonata, "Saint Mark"

Grave  
Allegro  
Andante  
Vivace

Tomaso Albinoni  
(1671-1750)  
arr. David Hickman

Frost Fire

Bright and Fast  
Gentle and Mysterious  
Tense and Dramatic

Eric Ewazen  
(b. 1954)

• • • INTERMISSION • • •

Suite from the Monterey Hills

La Marche  
Chanson Melancolique  
Valse Ridicule  
Danse Villageoise

Morley Calvert  
(b. 1928)

Music for the Royal Fireworks

Overture  
La Paix  
Bourrée  
Minuet  
La Réjoissance

Georg Friedrich Handel  
(1685-1759)